

**DIRECTORS' MEETING  
MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2009  
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING  
ROOM 113, 11:00 A.M.**

**I. CITY CLERK**

**II. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE MAYOR & DIRECTORS TO COUNCIL**

**PRESENTATIONS:**

1. Lincoln City Libraries, Pat Leach, Director
2. Building and Safety, Fred Hoke, Director

**MAYOR**

1. NEWS RELEASE. Mayor presents February Award of Excellence to Scott Holmes, Environmental Public Health Division of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department.
2. Washington Report, March 6, 2009.

**DIRECTORS:**

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

1. Annexation 08019 - Area 12, Letter to Property Owners.

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

1. Action by Planning Commission

**PLANNING COMMISSION FINAL ACTION**

1. Special Permit No. 09002, Historic Preservation, 10901 Adams Street.  
Resolution No. PC-01158.

**URBAN DEVELOPMENT/HOUSING REHAB & REAL ESTATE DIVISION**

1. Memo from Clinton W. Thomas. Street and Alley Vacation No. 08009, East/West Alley 18<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> Streets, between J and K Streets.
2. Memo from Clinton W. Thomas. Street and Alley Vacation No. 09001, R - S Streets, 20<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> Streets.

**III. COUNCIL RFI'S & CITIZENS CORRESPONDENCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**ROBIN ESCHLIMAN**

1. Article by Alan Ehrenhalt, "Stimulating Architecture", Governing Magazine
  - a) Letter by Robin Eschliman responding to "Stimulating Architecture", Governing Magazine, March 2009.
2. Letter from Vernie Upton. Keep the Bethany Library open as residents of Cotner Center walk and use their scooters to visit the library as many do not drive.

3. Letter from Darrell and Harriet Bennett. Keep Bethany Library open. Residents of the Cotner Center able to walk to library and use frequently.

#### **DAN MARVIN**

1. Email from Sally Bush, Legislative Technical Editor, Montana Legislature. Grew up using the South Street Library. Please do what you can to ensure the South Branch Library stays open.

#### **IV. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS TO COUNCIL**

1. Correspondence through InterLinc from Jane Levine. Economic sense to keep the South Branch Library open.
2. Email from Jennifer Perry and David DiLillo. Strongly opposing the closing of the South Street Branch Library.
3. Email from Julie Abo. Do not close Lincoln's South Branch Library, giving website for library statistics and literacy rates.
4. Letter from Ceil Lang. Second home is South Street Library, do not close.
5. Letter from Patty Hill, with attached letter sent to the Journal Star. Could the City Council help Lancaster Manor by making sure the Lancaster County Board does the right thing?
6. Correspondence from Joeth Zucco through InterLinc. Do not close our libraries and pools, and neglect our parks. Closing South Street Library and Irvingdale Pool, among others, is compromising the quality of our city.
7. Email from Mike Veak. A proposal to cut Lincoln's annual contribution to the Lincoln Municipal Band (LMB) would endanger LMB's future. Additionally, cutting city funding for the Lincoln Arts Council will also endanger the band.
8. Email from Jerry Dexter. Keep the Bethany and South Branch Libraries open. Look at options to keep open.
9. Letter from Aldine Jackson. Volunteer at the South Branch Library for five years. The library is within walking distance of the Near South and Country Club neighborhoods and a place all ages and income groups come to be enriched. (Each Council Member received individual letter on March 11, 2009)
10. Email from Deborah Yost, Administrator, Save Bethany Library Facebook group. Save the Bethany and South Branch Libraries. Organize to address the this budget shortfall.
11. Email from Gretchen Terpsma asking for support of the Lincoln Municipal Band and the Lincoln Arts Council.
12. Letter to Lincoln residents from Dean Haist, Executive Director of the Lincoln Municipal Band, asking for continued and increased support of the arts in our community.
13. Email from Chuck Holderby. Continue support for the Lincoln Municipal Band.
14. Email from Sarah Jane Skirry. The South Street Library is a very important part of the neighborhood, and community, and very important to keep open.

#### **V. ADJOURNMENT**

**DIRECTORS' MEETING  
MINUTES  
MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2009  
11:00 a.m.  
COUNTY/CITY BUILDING  
CONFERENCE ROOM 113**

**Council Members Present:** Robin Eschliman, Chair; Doug Emery, Vice-Chair; Ken Svoboda, Dan Marvin, Jon Camp, Jonathan Cook (arrived at 11:12 a.m.)   **Absent:** John Spatz

**Others Present:** Rick Hoppe, Trish Owen (arrived at 11:30 a.m.), Denise Pearce (arrived at 11:30 a.m.), Mayor's Office; City Clerk Joan Ross; Rick Peo, Chief Assistant City Attorney; Pat Leach, Lincoln City Libraries Director; Fred Hoke, Building & Safety Director; and Tammy Grammer, City Council Secretary

Ms. Eschliman opened the meeting at 11:07 a.m.

Location Announcement of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act: A Copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is Located on the Wall at the Rear of this Room.

**I. CITY CLERK -**

City Clerk Joan Ross stated on their Agenda today, Items 8, 9, 10, & 11 will be called together. [*#8, Application of Dau and Nguyen Properties LLC dba South Fast Break for a Class B liquor license at 1648 South Street.; #9, Manager application of Paulina T. Nguyen for Dau and Nguyen Properties LLC dba South Fast Break at 1648 South Street.; #10, Application of Nguyen S Corporation dba Ambiance Nail Spa for a Class C liquor license at 2755 Jamie Lane, Suite 3.; and #11, Manager application of Paulina T. Nguyen for Nguyen S Corporation dba Ambiance Nail Spa at 2755 Jamie Lane, Suite 3.*]

On the Food Ordinance, she will try to read briefly, but she will have to get all the main parts. She will not read all the sections just the changes. [*#12, 09-34, Amending Chapter 8.20 of the Lincoln Municipal Code relating to the Lincoln Food Code by amending Section 8.20.030 to revise and add definitions; amending Section 8.20.040 to create a uniform reference to the Lincoln Food Code; amending Section 8.20.060 to create a uniform reference to the Lincoln Food Code; repealing Section 8.20.070 relating to prohibited acts; amending Section 8.20.100 to create a uniform reference to the Lincoln Food Code; amending Section 8.20.110 to clarify the term for a temporary food establishment permit; amending Section 8.20.120 to provide exemptions to permit requirements for specific food establishments; amending Section 8.20.130 to create classifications of temporary food establishments; amending Section 8.20.140 to replace a reference to a specific section with a reference to the Lincoln Food Code; amending Section 8.20.150 relating to permit fees and temporary food establishments; amending Section 8.20.170 to replace a reference to a specific section with a reference to the Lincoln Food Code; repealing Section 8.20.180 relating to exemptions for food sales by nonprofit organizations; amending Section 8.20.190 to provide staffing and records requirements for*

*food establishments; adding a new section numbered 8.20.195 to set forth types of food handler and food manager permits; adding a new section numbered 8.20.197 to establish requirements for submitting applications for food handler and food manager permits; repealing Section 8.20.200 relating to the duties of food managers and food handlers; amending Section 8.20.210 to create a uniform reference to the Lincoln Food Code; amending Section 8.20.220 to create the term of food handler and food manager permits; amending Section 8.20.230 to revise food handler and food manager permit fees to reflect the change in classifications; amending Section 8.20.245 to require that the Health Director be notified if an employee is diagnosed with or suspected of having Norovirus, Enterohemorrhagic or Shiga Toxin-producing Escherichia coli; amending Section 8.20.260 to clarify and organize the section and provide uniform references to particular terms; amending Sections 8.20.262 and 8.20.264 to clarify and organize the sections for more convenient referencing; amending Section 8.20.270 to add prohibited acts; amending Section 8.20.280 to replace a reference to a specific section and provide a uniform reference to the Lincoln Food Code; amending Section 8.20.290 to delete a reference to a specific section and replace it with date of suspension; amending Section 8.20.300 to provide a uniform reference to Person In Charge and Lincoln Food Code; amending Section 8.20.310 to delete a reference to license and provide a uniform reference to the Lincoln Food Code; amending Section 8.20.320 to provide for a uniform reference to permit holder and Person In Charge; amending Section 8.20.340 to provide a uniform reference to the Lincoln Food Code and to clarify that civil and criminal actions may be taken; and repealing Sections 8.20.030, 8.20.040, 8.20.060, 8.20.100, 8.20.110, 8.20.120, 8.20.130, 8.20.140, 8.20.150, 8.20.170, 8.20.190, 8.20.210, 8.20.220, 8.20.230, 8.20.245, 8.20.260, 8.20.262, 8.20.264, 8.20.270, 8.20.280, 8.20.290, 8.20.300, 8.20.310, 8.20.320, and 8.20.340 of the Lincoln Municipal Code as hitherto existing.]*

Mr. Marvin asked for Items 17 & 18 to be called together? City Clerk Joan Ross responded Items 17 & 18 will be called together and thanked him. [*#17, 09R-37, Approving a Cooperation Agreement between the City and The Nature Conservancy for the continuance of the Saline Wetland Conservation Partnership for the cooperative management of the Implementation Plan for the Conservation of Nebraska's Eastern Saline Wetlands for a three year period beginning March 1, 2009 and terminating February 28, 2012.; and #18, 09R-38, Approving an Interlocal Cooperative Agreement between the City, the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission, and the Lower Platte South NRD for the continuance of the Saline Wetland Conservation Partnership for the management of the Implementation Plan for the Conservation of Nebraska's Eastern Saline Wetlands for a three year period beginning March 1, 2009 and terminating February 28, 2012.*]

There was discussion about Items 10 & 11. Ms. Eschliman stated she thinks they should have this discussion on the dias. Police Chief Casady stated Investigator Russ Fosler will be at the Council Meeting today. [*#10, Application of Nguyen S Corporation dba Ambiance Nail Spa for a Class C liquor license at 2755 Jamie Lane, Suite 3.; and #11, Manager application of Paulina T. Nguyen for Nguyen S Corporation dba Ambiance Nail Spa at 2755 Jamie Lane, Suite 3.*]

## **II. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE MAYOR & DIRECTORS TO COUNCIL -**

### **PRESENTATIONS: -**

Pat Leach, Library Director gave a presentation on the Lincoln City Libraries challenges and objectives for 2009-2010. *[See Attachment 'A']*

Ms. Leach commented she also would like to follow up with a few comments on what they've been hearing in the library in terms of their budget and the cost of closing the Bethany and South Libraries. In terms of this year's Library budget, she would say what they have learned is that people love their neighborhood libraries, they are hearing a lot from people about the Bethany and South Branch Libraries. A question that they get asked a lot is why did they choose to propose closing of the two library locations instead of cutting back every where. The amount of money they are talking about 91% of this year's budget that really was not enough to have eight library locations open and providing the minimum level of service. So, in looking at about \$780,000 budget cut, closing of the Bethany and South Libraries is about \$450,000 of that. To cut back every location they ran a variety of scenarios, and it looks like they probably have to have every location cut back at least two hours a day in order to keep the Bethany and South libraries open. They did not think that really was providing what they would consider minimum level of library service. They just don't think that this amount of money would allow them to have minimum service in all locations. Following discussion there were comments and questions from the Council. Mr. Camp asked Ms. Leach if she could provide Council with the information regarding circulation of materials going back five or ten years so they can see trends.

Fred Hoke, Building & Safety Director gave a presentation on the Building & Safety Department objectives for 2009-2010. *[See Attachment 'B']*

### **MAYOR -**

1. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Mayor Presents February Award of Excellence to Scott Holmes, Environmental Public Health Division of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department. - NO COMMENTS
2. Washington Report - March 6, 2009. - NO COMMENTS

### **DIRECTORS -**

#### **PLANNING -**

1. Annexation 08019 - Area 12, Letter to Property Owners. - NO COMMENTS

**PLANNING COMMISSION -**

1. Action by Planning Commission. - NO COMMENTS

**PLANNING COMMISSION FINAL ACTION .....**

1. Special Permit #09002 - Historic Preservation, 10901 Adams Street - Resolution No. PC-01158. - NO COMMENTS

**URBAN DEVELOPMENT/HOUSING REHAB & REAL ESTATE DIVISION -**

1. Memo from Clinton W. Thomas - RE: Street & Alley Vacation #08009 - East/West Alley 18<sup>th</sup> -19th Streets, between J & K Streets. - NO COMMENTS
2. Memo from Clinton W. Thomas - RE: Street & Alley Vacation #09001 - R - S Streets, 20<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> Streets. - NO COMMENTS

**III. COUNCIL RFI'S & CITIZENS CORRESPONDENCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL MEMBERS -**

**JON CAMP** - No Comments

**JONATHAN COOK** - No Comments

**DOUG EMERY** - No Comments

**ROBIN ESCHLIMAN** - No Comments

1. Article by Alan Ehrenhalt - "Stimulating Architecture" - Governing Magazine. - NO COMMENTS
  - a.) Letter by Robin Eschliman responding to "Stimulating Architecture", Governing Magazine, March 2009. - NO COMMENTS
2. Letter from Vernie Upton - RE: Keep the Bethany Library open as residents of Cotner Center walk and use their scooters to visit the library as many do not drive. - NO COMMENTS
3. Letter from Darrell & Harriet Bennett - RE: Keep Bethany Library open - Residents of the Cotner Center able to walk to library and use frequently. - NO COMMENTS

**DAN MARVIN** - No Comments

1. E-Mail from Sally Bush, Legislative Technical Editor, Montana Legislature - RE: Grew up using the South Street Library. Please do what you can to ensure the South Branch Library stays open. - NO COMMENTS

**JOHN SPATZ - Absent**

**KEN SVOBODA - No Comments**

**IV. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS TO COUNCIL -**

1. E-Mail from Jane Levine - RE: Economic sense to keep the South Branch Library open.- NO COMMENTS
2. E-Mail from Jennifer Perry & David DiLillo - RE: Strongly opposing the closing of the South Street Branch Library. - NO COMMENTS
3. E-Mail from Julie Abo - RE: Do not close Lincoln's South Branch Library, giving website for library statistics and literacy rates. - NO COMMENTS
4. Letter from Ceil Lang - RE: Second home is South Street Library, do not close. - NO COMMENTS
5. Letter from Patty Hill and attached letter sent to the Lincoln Journal Star - RE: Could the City Council help Lancaster Manor by making sure the Lancaster County Board does the right thing? - NO COMMENTS
6. E-Mail from Joeth Zucco - RE: Do not close our libraries and pools, and neglect our parks. Closing South Street Library and Irvingdale Pool, among others, is compromising the quality of our city. - NO COMMENTS
7. E-Mail from Mike Veak - RE: A proposal to cut Lincoln's annual contribution to the Lincoln Municipal Band (LMB) would endanger LMB's future. Additionally, cutting city funding for the Lincoln Arts Council will also endanger the band. - NO COMMENTS
8. E-Mail from Jerry Dexter - RE: Keep the Bethany and South Branch Libraries open. Look at options to keep open. - NO COMMENTS
9. Letter from Aldine Jackson - RE: The library is within walking distance of the Near South and Country Club neighborhoods and a place all ages and income groups come to be enriched - (Council received individual letter placed in file folders on 03/11/09). - NO COMMENTS
10. E-Mail from Deborah Yost, Administrator, Save Bethany Library Facebook group - RE: Save the Bethany and South Branch Libraries. - NO COMMENTS

11. E-Mail from Gretchen Terpsma - RE: Asking for support of the Lincoln Municipal Band and the Lincoln Arts Council. - NO COMMENTS
12. Letter from Dean Haist, Executive Director of the Lincoln Municipal Band - RE: Asking for continued and increased support of the arts in our community. - NO COMMENTS
13. E-Mail from Chuck Holderby - RE: Continue support for the Lincoln Municipal Band. - NO COMMENTS
14. E-Mail from Sarah Skirry - RE: The South Street Library is a very important part of the neighborhood, and community, and very important to keep open. - NO COMMENTS

**ADDENDUM - (For March 16<sup>th</sup>)**

**I. CITY CLERK - None**

**II. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE MAYOR & DIRECTORS TO COUNCIL -**

**MAYOR -**

1. NEWS ADVISORY - RE: Mayor Beutler's Public Schedule Week of March 14 through March 20, 2009 - Schedule subject to change. - NO COMMENTS
2. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Candidate Debates Set For March 17 - Debates to be aired on 5 City-TV. - NO COMMENTS

**DIRECTORS - None**

**III. COUNCIL RFI'S & CITIZENS CORRESPONDENCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL MEMBERS - None**

**IV. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS TO COUNCIL -**

1. E-Mail from John R. Brown II, Landons Neighborhood - RE: Item#21, 05-188, Change of Zone #3413 on City Council 'pending list'. - NO COMMENTS
2. E-Mail from Larry Schwartz - RE: Why are they salting the streets? - NO COMMENTS

[End of Addendum]

**V. MEETING ADJOURNED - Approximately at 12:13 p.m.**

dm031609/tjg



Objectives 2009-10  
Lincoln City Libraries  
Submitted by Pat Leach, 3-9-09

1. Are there interpretations of law (federal regulations, state statute, City Charter provisions or ordinances, Mayor's executive orders, or the department's published administrative procedures) that impact the provision of your Department's services and that need further clarification and/or review?

- The Library Board of Trustees is updating its Memorandum of Understanding with the Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries. This will result in some changes regarding how the Library is involved with the work of the Foundation.
- The Library is updating its purchasing and contracting process. We have responsibilities to our Library Board of Directors as well as to the City of Lincoln processes.

2. What should be changed or modified in your Department to better provide current services and which do not require financial resources?

- The Library is participating in a consortium of Nebraska public libraries exploring a new way of providing an Integrated Library System (ILS), the system we use to keep track of what we own, what is checked out, and what is on customer records. This project will use Open Source software, which means that the software isn't protected by a particular company that prohibits libraries from working with the software to improve it. Instead, Open Source relies on communities of users to make improvements and share information. This isn't a free service, but we already have funds in the budget to support an Integrated Library System.

3. What should be changed or modified in your Department to better provide current services and which do require additional financial resources?

- Hours--We've received many comments from the public complaining about the lack of evening hours at Bennett Martin Public Library. Additional resources would be required to re-institute those hours.
- Training--We have been able to provide very little training for our staff, and yet we expect them to stay current on many new technologies and services. Staffing levels also make it difficult for people to be away from public service desks in order to participate in training.
- More new materials for checkout—Although there will always be people who want “old favorites,” most library customers are looking for what's new. We've devised a variety of ways to make our budget stretch as far as possible, but could use additional resources to ensure that our customers find new books, especially best sellers, when they visit the library. Our statistics show that new materials account for a good deal of our circulation.
- Future planning—We need to develop plans for a new Main Library, and for overall strategic planning. Initial research indicates that this planning should be rolled into an overall strategic planning cycle.

4. If you had to discontinue at least one current program or service, what would it be and for what reason?

- The kinds of programming that we've done for adults in several of our libraries have not gained traction. This primarily means special events or book groups for adults, outside of the One Book One Lincoln program. We would continue most of the many successful events that we offer for children.

5. What new services do you think your department should provide and for what reason?

- Many people now communicate through text messaging and social networking sites. The library needs to be present in those media in order to answer questions at point of need, and to maximize the ability of people to share information. For example, people can submit book reviews via an application on Facebook called Visual Bookshelf. Libraries should capitalize on this by making those reviews available also on their catalogs.
- The library currently provides downloadable audio, or books that can be listened to with an MP3 device. We are getting requests for downloadable video as well.
- Some excellent "homework help" online services are available. The library would broaden its assistance to students if it offered this service, and would benefit from students continuing to view the library as a relevant "virtual" place.

6. With respect to any of the above questions, have you explored, or has your staff explored, best management practices elsewhere in the country?

- Lincoln City Libraries is a member of the Urban Libraries Council, the Public Library Association, and the American Library Association. Each of these groups provides information regarding best practices and planning processes. Library staff monitor electronic lists, blogs, and other ongoing information from these and other library groups.

7. With respect to responses provided in 1 through 3 and 5 above, what do you want to accomplish in budget year 2009-2010 (list in priority order with number 1 being the highest priority)? Please consider the Citywide outcomes and goals in your response.

- Expand accessibility of computers available for public Internet access
- Strengthen library programs for new Americans and literacy students
- Continue enrichment of preschool programs with family literacy education
- Replace Integrated Library System
- Create a new Strategic Plan
- Create a current Main Library Facilities study

8. How can other departments contribute to the goals you have prioritized in number 7 above?

- Overall, we need to support and advocate for each other's work, recognizing publicly that Lincoln is a great place to live because we're ALL working well.

## Objectives 2009-10

### Building & Safety Department

**"We share responsibility for one another's success"**

#### Mission Statement

Our responsibility is to assure that the health, fire, and housing safety needs of the public are maintained through adherence to those requirements established by law in the construction or use of every building in the community. This includes buildings in which people live, eat, sleep, play, work, worship, study, recuperate or are entertained. By accomplishing this mission the quality of life in the community is enhanced.

1. Are there interpretations of law (federal regulations, state statute, City Charter provisions or ordinances, Mayors executive orders, or the department's published administrative procedures) that impact the provision of your Department's services and that need further clarification and/or review?

There are not.

2. What should be changed or modified in your Department to better provide current services and which do not require financial resources?

- Ensure inspector consistency and service quality throughout City quadrants
- Provide sufficient information to expedite plans through the development process
- Promote outstanding internal and external customer-service philosophy, implemented throughout the department, to facilitate the development process
- Improve collaboration with employees to activate improvements to the Responsibilities and Actions for enhanced evaluation process
- Create intake section for non-commercial home owners doing their own work
- Complete final inspections for Occupancy Permit before home is sold or occupied
- Increase training for contractors for code improvements
- Increase coordination among B&S, Planning, Public Works, UD and Health
- Streamline an understandable permitting process
- Work with architects and engineers to insure that original designs are code compliant
- Improve final inspection times from notification from contractors and builders. Set benchmarks and work to beat them.

Fire Prevention responsibilities are quite diverse with investigations, inspections, code enforcements, public education, and bomb squad work.

- Enhance existing programs
- Buy a building to house equipment instead of paying rent.
- Purchase or lease a vehicle to respond to bomb and arson calls. We use a converted 1983 Chevy step van.

3. What should be changed or modified in your Department to better provide current services and which do require additional financial resources?

- Inspector's "drop-proof" laptops frequently need new touch screens. As older units fail, we do not have the nearly \$4,500 to replace them. We also need software upgrades for the inspectors and the administrative office
- Digital video camera for training. Video job sites and activities that have wide implications for consistency of inspections. These training opportunities would help our inspectors remain as proficient as possible. We also want to provide streaming video links to our website to help developers, builders, trade contractors and home owners have the latest information to maximize their effectiveness in their building projects
- Utilize new wireless technology to improve inspections. Seamless communications among inspectors and the main office will result in efficiencies. As field conditions and booked schedules change, wireless communications will create the flexibility we need to modify schedules as needed. This creates a better opportunity to meet emergency or weather-related inspections in the field
- Grant potential with UD, Health, HBAL, Realtors, LCOC, NeighborWorks and Housing Trust Fund to provide web site for locating houses in the Core that have had lead paint and asbestos removed. This program would help potential homebuyers and remodelers know the status of a dwelling to stimulate investment and repair options. Grant for lead abatement training and window replacement for contractors
- GIS intern and partnership with UNL, City, LCOC, Dept. of Commerce and Department of Labor
- Technology Opportunity Program (TOP). Help make B&S more responsive using technology
- Responsive inspections for housing complaints
- More educational programs for fire prevention, arson and bomb enticements (experimentation)
- Improved electronic permit application with GIS capability

4. If you had to discontinue at least one current program or service, what would it be and for what reason?

- Complaint-driven housing inspections for potential code violations. This is a General Fund program that cannot derive revenue from permits.

It is, however, a critical program from the perspective of neighborhoods, agencies, and programs that deal with the improvement of all neighborhoods. Cutting one inspector position would not reduce the number of required inspections; it would force the remaining inspectors to take up that work and still try to maintain the requirement to address these complaints within 24 hours.

Building and Safety programs are permit fee driven using the Enterprise Fund for accumulating fees for "Work in Progress."

- Deletions in Fire Prevention would include non-revenue producing programs, such as Juvenile fire setter counseling, public education, fire extinguisher classes to businesses, school programs, fusion project for immigrants, general public complaints, and eliminate the bomb squad which constitutes 10% of the Fire Prevention budget.
- Eliminate ½ of the federally-required underground storage tank inspections.
- Eliminate design meetings prior to plan submittals.

5. What new services do you think your department should provide and for what reason?

- Home owner's desk for personal service, advice and support. Too often, homeowners who may need extra help keep the professional contractors from expediting their work with the counter. This frustrates the professionals. Our intention is to create a separate area for homeowners in a more relaxed environment where our plan review people can work more effectively with them and keep the line moving for the professional contractor, developer or builder.
- Sidewalk permits, curb cuts and inspections would seem to fit better in B&S
- Enhanced web training for contractors on all code changes in multiple languages
- Increase cross-training to improve staff's knowledge of the overall development process from planning to issuing a Certificate of Occupancy

6. With respect to any of the above questions, have you explored, or has your staff explored best management practices elsewhere in the country?

<http://www.sanantonio.gov/dsd/>

[http://www.sfgov.org/site/dbi\\_index.asp](http://www.sfgov.org/site/dbi_index.asp)

<http://www.kcmo.org/kcmo.nsf/web/home?opendocument>

<http://www.ci.des-moines.ia.us/>

<http://www.sandiego.gov/development-services/>

Our staff continues to provide leadership in their local, state and national professional organizations. Our section chiefs provide certification training for plumbers, electricians, HVAC, and Fire Prevention. Our Fire Prevention staff is State and nationally certified in fire inspections and bomb abatement procedures. Our plumbing Chief is president of the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials. He also serves on the national Code Review Board. In each case, our staff members are interacting with outstanding programs and leaders in addition to sharing the successes and benchmark programs in the City of Lincoln.

7. With respect to responses provided in 1 through 3 and 5 above, what do you want to accomplish in budget year 2009-2010 (list in priority order with number 1 being the highest priority)? Please consider the City-wide outcomes and goals in your response.

**Safety and Security** – Timely, consistent, professional permitting and inspections upholding the current codes

**Economic Opportunity** – Since B&S activities are critical to the implementation of commercial and residential projects, it's our responsibility to implement systems and processes that respond fairly, quickly, and professionally to maintain the City of Lincoln codes yet provide improved cycle times for reviews, permits and inspections

**Accountable Government** – Responsive to customer needs with adequate information, advice and support for approving projects

**Environmental Quality** – Cross training plumbing, electrical, HVAC, and Housing Preservation inspectors to look for sediment and erosion control violations on new construction and forwarding those issues to Watershed Management.

Continue to support “green” building products and techniques that improve the energy efficiency of homes and offices yet decrease the high carbon footprints of industries creating less efficient products and methods.

Most newly-constructed houses should abide by the most basic environmentally-responsible practices by using permeable paving, cellulose insulation, low-flush toilets and passive solar energy. The number of environmentally toxic products in the typical developer-built new house is astonishing: cement (foundations) and drywall (everywhere) are two of the three top producers of greenhouse gases in building materials. PVC piping, particleboard, paints, carpets, and other products contain volatile organic compounds.

Building and Safety, through our educational programs and web-based training can provide the insights and support for a more environmentally-friendly building industry.

**Healthy and Productive People** – Recognizing that each section within Building and Safety, including the Bureau of Fire Prevention and the Housing Preservation/Apartment Licensing bureaus, underpin the health and productivity of the people with whom these sections interact. New Building and Safety codes provide increased health, safety, and quality of life for the citizens of Lincoln and Lancaster County

**Livable Neighborhoods** – Continue to respond to complaint-based notifications for inspecting residential and commercial properties that may have code violations

8. How can other departments contribute to the goals you have prioritized in number 7 above?

**Accountable Government** – Improve the coordination among construction-related departments to insure that all regulations are being addressed. All efforts are focused on getting projects approved and communicated with the applicant on the progress of the project. Use strengthened partnerships among all levels of government and the private sector.

- Begin to implement segments of the Development Services Center to coordinate planning, zoning, floodplain, project and plan review, permitting, and inspections. All plans, processes and programs need to be reviewed thoroughly to look for ways to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of everything we do. The transparency of every system needs to document that city government is supporting the growth and development of Lincoln.
- Report issues relative to these goals that should trigger a response from B&S